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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 4, 2002

Applicant(s): Hiroyuki MAEDA

For: OPERATING UNIT OF A VEHICLE HAVING AN AUTOMATIC BRAKING DEVICE

Serial No.: 09/648 290

Group: 3661

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

Filed: August 24, 2000

Examiner: Broadhead

International Application No.: N/A

International Filing Date: N/A

Atty. Docket No.: OPS Case 500

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2001,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows. Marked-up
copies of amended paragraphs are enclosed herewith.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 9,
with the following rewritten paragraph:

---Particularly, it is an object of the invention to
automatically prevent a vehicle from entering a tunnel when a
fire breaks out in the tunnel, thereby improving the safety of
the vehicle.---

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line
15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

---In Figs. 1 and 2, a tunnel 1 is positioned at an
appropriate location of a road 2 and forms a part of the road
2. The tunnel 1 is shown by a cross section in Fig. 1 wherein